

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET**

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**NEWS RELEASE** 

## SLOT MACHINES SEIZED AT COMMUNITY CLUB

Office of Charitable Gaming finds 'illegal gambling devices' during inspection

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Aug. 31, 2006) – The Kentucky Office of Charitable Gaming (OCG) seized six slot machines from the McDowell-Minnie-Drift Community Club in Minnie, Ky. on Aug. 24, 2006. The illegal machines were found in the office of the organization during a routine compliance check, which is part of the application process for a charitable gaming license. The case is to be heard in Floyd County District Court on Sept. 6, 2006.

Jimmy Hall, chief executive officer of the club, was charged with possession of an "illegal gambling device," a Class A misdemeanor punishable by up to a \$1,000 fine and one year in jail.

KRS 528.080 states that "a person is guilty of possession of a gambling device when, with knowledge of the character thereof, he manufactures, sells, transports, places or possesses a gambling device or conducts or negotiates any transaction affecting or designed to affect ownership, custody or use of any gambling device, believing that it is to be used in the advancement of unlawful gambling activity."

According to KRS 528.010 (4) (a), an illegal gambling device means "any so-called slot machine or any other machine or mechanical device an essential part of which is a drum or reel with insignia thereon, and which when operated may deliver, as a result of the application of an element of chance, any money or property, or by the operation of which a person may become entitled to receive, as the result of the application of an element of chance, any money or property.

OCG is an agency of the Department of Public Protection in the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet. It was created to provide a regulatory framework allowing charitable gaming to thrive as a viable fundraising mechanism. The office helps to ensure the productivity of charitable gaming through appropriate regulation, oversight and education.

